

**Coastal Resiliency Advisory Committee**  
**Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2022**  
**Via Zoom**

\*Meetings are audio- and video-recorded

**Members present:** Mary Longacre, Peter Brace, Sarah Bois, Gary Beller, Matt Fee, Joe Topham, Rachael Freeman

**Members Absent:** Christy Kickham, Ian Golding, Jen Karberg, Joanna Roche

**Staff present:** Vincent Murphy, Sheila Lucey

**Others:** RJ Turcotte, Tim Braine, Izzy Gaw, Emily Kilvert, D. Anne Atherton, Dean Geddes, William Kinsella, Doug Rose, Carolina Magina, Julie Walker

**1. Call to Order**

10:01 a.m.

**2. Meeting announcements**

- Script for remotely conducting Open Meetings, read by the Chair
- The meeting is being audio / visually recorded

**3. Discussion about coastal resilience planning for the harbor with Harbormaster Sheila Lucey; Emily Kilvert, Chair of the Rising Sea Level Committee at the Nantucket Yacht Club; Stephen Creese, General Manager of the Great Harbor Yacht Club, and Carolina Magina, Sustainability Manager for New England Development, owners of the Nantucket Boat Basin.**

Ms. Lucey reported that the tides have been extremely low. She reported that she continues to work on rebuilding the Town Pier despite permitting challenges, which included replacing the floating docks and extending the “dogleg” by 100 feet to the northwest. Ms. Lucey reported that her department’s most immediate sea level rise concern is beach access limiting her ATV patrols during the lifeguarding season including at Madaket Beach, Tom Nevers, the sewer settling beds at the Surfside

Wastewater Treatment Facility, Point of Breakers and Dionis Beach. She added that she only just opened Madaket to the public around two weeks ago.

Mr. Beller asked if the beach built back up on its own at Madaket Beach or was sand added by the Town. Ms. Lucey said the beach came on its own. Mr. Brace asked if Madaket Beach would be lost for the public if the beach parking lot erodes away within the next year. Ms. Lucey said she would keep a close eye on this.

Mr. Creese said he worked with Marty Hilton of Preservation Institute: Nantucket (PI:N) to document and analyze Great Harbor Yacht Club's (GHYC) property. Based on PI:N's findings, GHYC hired a consulting firm to do a long-range plan for this club. Mr. Creese said he's witnessed high tides running down Washington Street Extension, but, he noted, GHYC's property has yet to get wet as a result of these high tides. Mr. Creese asked that the GHYC be physically included within the "breakwater" conceptual drawing that may be needed between 2050 and 2070.

Ms. Freeman joined the meeting at 10:19 a.m.

Ms. Kilvert said flooding events historically impact the Nantucket Yacht Club (NYC) from South Beach Street because of compromised storm drains. Ms. Kilvert reported that the club does have sea level rise adaptation committee. She added this committee found in a sea level survey of the NYC's members that a "vast majority" of survey respondents were "fully in favor of working with the Town to protect ourselves and be good neighbors."

Ms. Magina said Nantucket Island Resorts (NIR) hopes to do a similar survey. She reported that none of NIR's hotel properties have flooded yet. She added that the Boat Basin does get flooded during storms during the winter. She reported that NIR has hired a consultant to analyze high tides within the Boat Basin.

Mr. Brace asked Ms. Kilvert if the NYC is built on pilings to keep it above the flood plain. Ms. Kilvert didn't know if the clubhouse was built on pilings. She added that the NYC is planning on hiring a consultant to advice it on adapting to sea level rise. She further added that the club is speaking with Carl Jelleme of the Toscana Corp. on ideas for raising the

clubhouse. Ms. Kilvert said the NYC is also focusing on raising its waterfront bulkhead in cooperation with the Steamship Authority's plan to do same with its bulkheads.

Mr. Creese said that it appears inevitable that the GHYC will eventually have to raise its own clubhouse sometime in the future.

Mr. Murphy explained the Downtown Flood Barrier phase one area engineering feasibility study, which would focus on the Easy Street Basin. A draft design would follow.

Ms. Longacre said that all of the plans for each of the waterfront entities which reported their status today need to work in unison and work with the Coastal Resilience Plan (CRP).

Mr. Creese said the approximately 20 storm drains on Washington Street Extension around the GHYC need to be cleaned out. He reported that's he's been unable to find a company or individual to clean out these drains.

Ms. Kilvert asked if the Town was working with the towns on Martha's Vineyard on the sea level adaption issues. Ms. Longacre said the myriad differences between the two islands makes this a challenging prospect.

Dr. Bois said there is sharing of information between Nantucket and other coastal Massachusetts communities. Ms. Kilvert said the NYC has observed from afar the raising of the Edgartown Yacht Club clubhouse.

Ms. Freeman reported that the Nantucket Islands Land Bank (Land Bank) in its project planning works of different cities and town, primarily Boston, MA and New York City, N.Y.

Ms. Longacre added that The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR) is working with the Nantucket Conservation Foundation (NCF) on TTOR's plan for its Nantucket property.

Mr. Beller asked if the decomposing seaweed in the harbor that is blocking storm drains is causing a problem. Ms. Lucey said this is a common problem along the waterfront.

Mr. Brace said he thought the marsh along Easton Street might causing a smell. Mr. Fee confirmed that this has been an issue in the past.

Ms. Lucey left the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

Mr. Creese and Ms. Kilvert left the meeting at 11 a.m.

**4. Discussion of Proclamation of September as Climate Change Awareness month and associated activities See ACKlimate site**

**<https://www.acklimate.org/spoke-groups/project-four-dzk7x>**

Ms. Longacre asked if anyone had any suggested additions to this proclamation. Mr. Kinsella asked to change the email address. He added that his group is comfortable with the proclamation as it is. The CRAC voted 6-0 to approve this proclamation. Joe Topham was not available to vote.

**5. Nomination and election of CRAC Secretary.**

There were initially no volunteers to be secretary.

Mr. Brace said whoever does the minutes doesn't have to do the minutes as detailed as he does. He reminded the CRAC that advisory boards don't have paid staff to take minutes and he acknowledged that all of the committee members were busy. Ms. Longacre suggested there be co-secretaries or rotating secretaries or reduce the frequency of meetings to once a month. Dr. Bois volunteered to do the minutes for a while, but she said she doesn't want to do the minutes for the rest of her term. Ms. Freeman said she would share the secretary role with Dr. Bois. Dr. Bois said she's happy to do this with Ms. Freeman as a backup. Mr. Brace share his basic minute-taking process while he's in the meeting and what information to record. Mr. Beller said he would help proofread. The CRAC voted unanimously, 7-0, to elect Dr. Bois and Ms. Freeman to be co-secretaries

**6. Approval of CRAC minutes from July 26th.**

The CRAC unanimously approved the minutes, 7-0.

**7. Public Comment**

Ms. Longacre asked for public comment.

Mr. Creese and Ms. Kilvert left the meeting at 11 a.m.

D. Atherton noted that Dave Fronzuto had secured funding from the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) to maintain public access to shore at Madaket Beach, Cisco Beach and at the end of Quaise Road and that Town needed to be vigilant at these locations. She

added that at the time, she said the Town had committed to a “sand bank”. Ms. Atherton reminded the CRAC that the two yacht clubs are supposed to be providing public access along their portions of the waterfront, so she stressed the importance of public access along the entire downtown waterfront. Mr. Fee said the issue with the NYC’s public access is usually how people get safely across the truck lanes on Steamship Authority property.

**8. New business, Committee & Natural Resources Dept. reports from Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board, Select Board, Advisory Committee of Non-Voting Tax Payers, and other committee members.**

Mr. Murphy said the update of the harbor action plan would include input from the CRAC.

Dr. Bois reported that with a grant from the Madaket Conservation Association, the Linda Loring Nature Foundation installed water level meters in the North Head of Long Pond and in the Madaket Ditch a month ago to get a good understanding of tidal flow in and out of this part of the west end. She said LLNF would be sharing the data with the town.

Ms. Freeman said she would be presenting the Land Bank’s plan for sea level rise for its waterfront properties.

**9. Discussion of upcoming meeting dates and topics**

Ms. Longacre said the next CRAC meeting was scheduled for Aug. 23, 2022 at 10 a.m.

**10. Motion to adjourn**

Unanimously approved, 7-0, at 11:08 a.m.

**YouTube meeting link**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpJhG38RwNg&list=PL49sKqpy7VAiUk-g5h2jIuAn\\_2jqocI2L&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpJhG38RwNg&list=PL49sKqpy7VAiUk-g5h2jIuAn_2jqocI2L&index=2)